

OSCAR – CALCS 2011

USER REFERENCE



State of New Jersey

Department of Labor and Workforce Development Office of Special Compensation Funds

INTRODUCTION

OSCAR-CALCS is a product of the Office of Special Compensation Funds (OSCF) and part of its automated systems development effort entitled Office of Special Compensation Application Resource. OSCAR-CALCS was designed to address the most common date and arithmetic functions that arise during the course of a workers' compensation case and was intended for use by OSCF legal and other staff as well as the judicial staff within the Division of Workers' Compensation. Critical to its design and testing was the involvement and critical input of several Judges of Compensation. Their assistance is acknowledged and appreciated.

All users of OSCAR-CALCS are reminded that, in spite of extensive testing and evaluation, no warranty as to the usefulness of this software is offered and results obtained by use of this software should not necessarily be accepted in place of the expertise of Judges of Compensation or workers' compensation practitioners.

If you wish to be kept informed of updates to this software, please send a blank email to oscar@dol.state.nj.us with the subject "OSCAR-CALCS". We will record your email address and notify you of any updates, revisions, etc.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

OSCAR-CALCS was designed and tested to run on Windows XP, Windows Vista and Windows 7 only. While the software will operate with as little as 1GB of memory, 2GB is highly recommended. Approximately 14MB of hard drive space will be required for installation of OSCAR-CALCS as well as the Microsoft .NET framework. Screen resolution of at least 1024 x 768 is required to display the full screens.

You will also need to have administrator privileges to install this software on most computers.

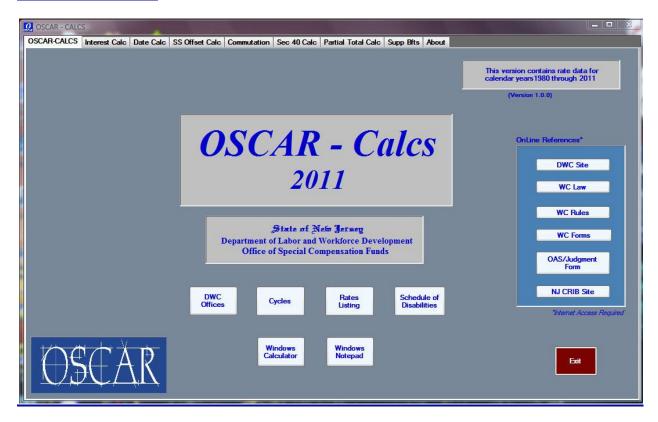
A Note On Movements

Like most Windows-based applications, OSCAR-CALCS uses the tab key for movement between fields in a given window. You can, of course, use the mouse to move around a window, but this will probably take longer and you'll have to mess with the mouse. But hey, it's your call.

The date fields in OSCAR-CALCS contain a calendar function. By clicking on the small triangle to the right in the date field, the month corresponding to the date will be displayed. (Try it. It's true.) The two small arrows at the top of the month allow you to move (virtually) to prior or future months and select the appropriate date. You can also simply enter the date using the forward slash (/) key or arrow keys between the month, day and four-digit year.

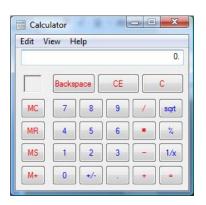
TOUR OF OSCAR-CALCS

Windows Calculator



Shown above is the primary screen of OSCAR-CALCS. From this screen you will navigate to the various features and functions of the software. Please note that the "x" button located in the upper right-hand corner of the screen has been disabled. You must use the "EXIT" button provided in the lower right-hand corner of the screen to exit OSCAR-CALCS.

Along the bottom of the primary screen are a series of features which are designed for quick access and reference. The first is the "Windows Calculator" which simply calls up the calculator built into your version of Windows:



Your version of Windows and the "View" you have selected will determine what your Windows calculator looks like.

DWC Offices

The "Offices" button will provide address, phone and fax information for each of the fifteen vicinages of the Division.



Select a vicinage from the drop down list at the upper-right of the window:

Once the specific vicinage is highlighted, press the "Select" button to display the data for that vicinage:



When finished, press the "Close" button.

We have pretty much dispensed with telling you to click on the "Close" button on the most of the following pages because it's obvious and tedious.

Cycles

The "Cycles" function is designed to determine the cycle week and day of a date entered into or selected from the "Date" field of this window:



The date may be entered manually in the normal date format using the "/" to move between month, day and year. You may also select the date by clicking on the small arrow immediately to the right of the date shown which will display the current month. Using the small arrows to the left and right of the month/year heading of the calendar page, you can move backward and forward to the selected month and year and then clicking on the specific date.

The result of your entry or selection of a specific date will display the cycle week and day for that date:

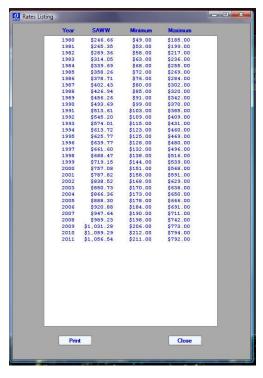


You may then click on "Clear" to enter or select another date or click on "Close" to exit the "Cycles" function.

Rates Listing

The "Rates Listing" button will display the Statewide Average Weekly Wage (SAWW), the minimum and the maximum weekly workers' compensation rates for the each year since

1980:



By clicking on the "Print" button, you may print the rates listing to your local printer.

Schedule of Disabilities

The "Schedule of Disabilities" button will display the current schedule as prescribed at N.J.S.A. 34:15-12 et seq. with the same print capabilities of the "Rates Listing," above:



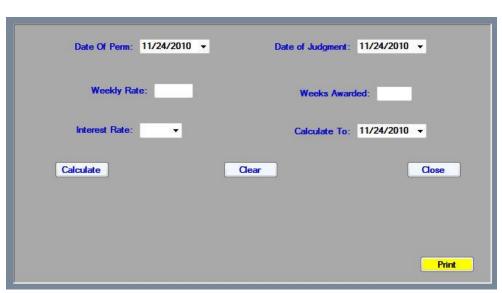
OSCAR-CALC TABS

Across the top of the OSCAR-CALCS window are nine tabs which may be clicked to display the particular functionality desired.

Interest Calc

This function is designed to calculate interest due on permanency benefits based upon specified period since the date of Judgment at a specific interest rate.

The "Interest Rate" field is a drop-down list of likely rates. You may select from that list or enter your own as a whole percent (e.g. 5.4).



Once the appropriate data has been entered, the basic amount, interest and total amount due will be displayed:



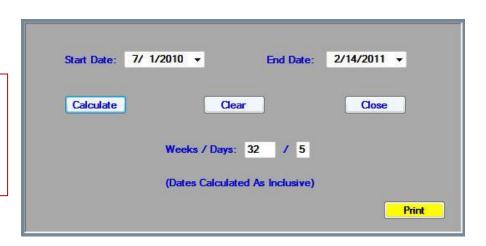
Date Calc

The "Date Calc" function simply provides the number of weeks and days between two specified dates. Note that the calculations are inclusive of the two dates entered.



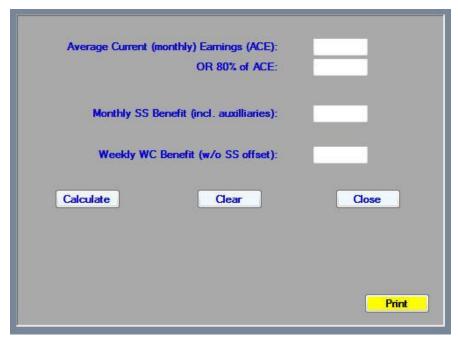
Once both dates have been entered or selected and the "Calculate" button is clicked, the number of weeks and days are displayed:

You may also enter the number of days and weeks and the "Start Date" will reflect the date from the current date in the future. If you enter a minus (-) number of weeks, the date shown will be that of the number of weeks prior to the current date.



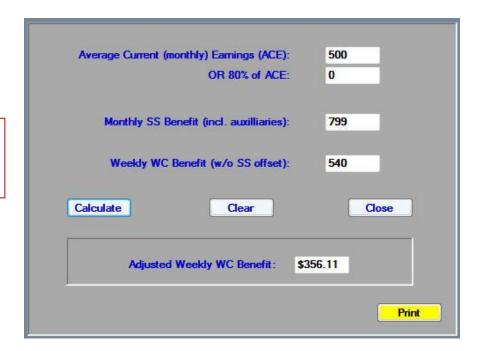
SS Offset Calc

The "SS Offset Calc" function calculates the offset of workers' compensation benefits provided at N.J.S.A. 34;15-95.5:



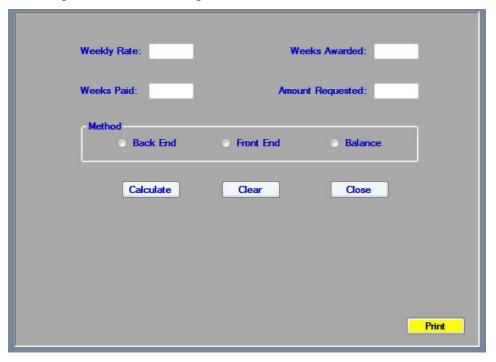
Once <u>either</u> the ACE or 80% ACE, the Monthly SS benefit and weekly workers' compensation benefit rate have been entered, clicking on the "Calculate" button will result in the display of the adjusted weekly workers' compensation rated after offset.

If, in the unlikely event that the "Adjusted Weekly WC Benefits" is shown as less than zero (in parentheses), the result should be considered zero.

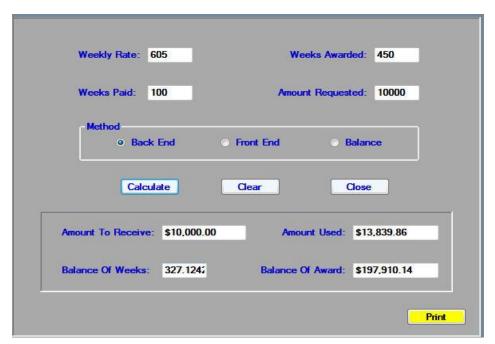


Commutation

The "Commutation" function will calculate the present value of the requested amount to be commuted at simple interest of 5% as per N.J.S.A. 34:15-25.

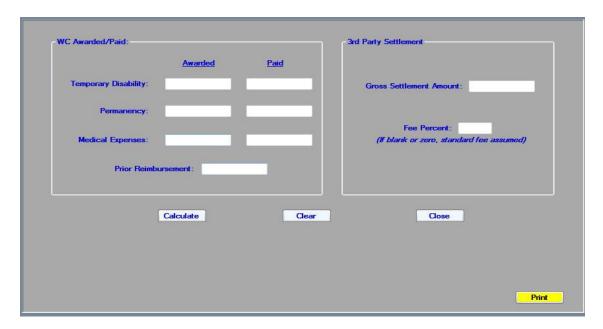


Once all rate, award and requested amount data has been entered and the method for the commutation selected from the three presented, the amount of the award to be received by the petitioner, the amount used, the number of weeks and the balance of the award will be displayed:

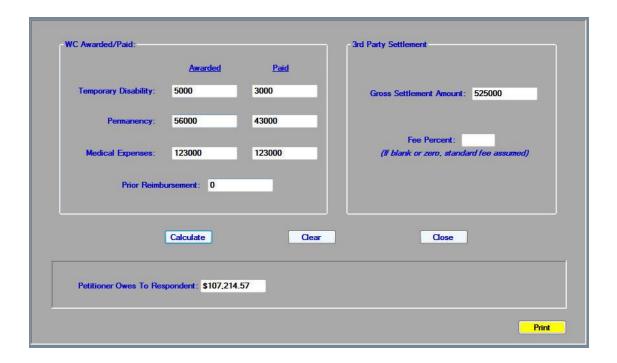


Section 40 Calc

The "Section 40 Calc" function will calculate the amounts owed under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 34:15-40 where a third-party settlement by the petitioner has been concluded.



Once all applicable award and payment data as well as the third party settlement data have been entered, press the "Calculate" button to display the results:

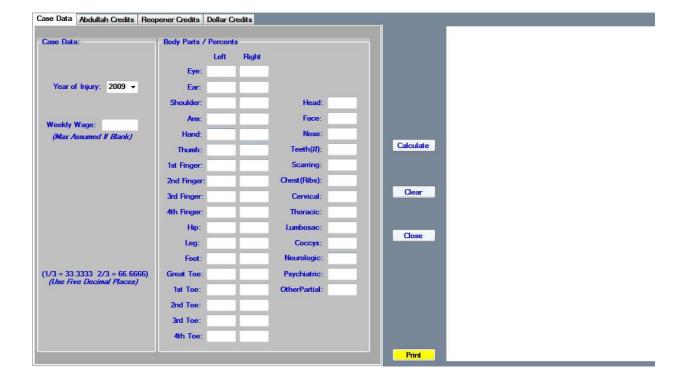


Partial Total Calc

The "Partial Total Calc" function is designed to accept all data necessary for the calculation of permanent partial disability under N.J.S.A. 34:15-12c. This window is made up of four tabs (Case Data, Abdullah Credits, Reopener Credits, and Dollar Credits) and a results window on the right.

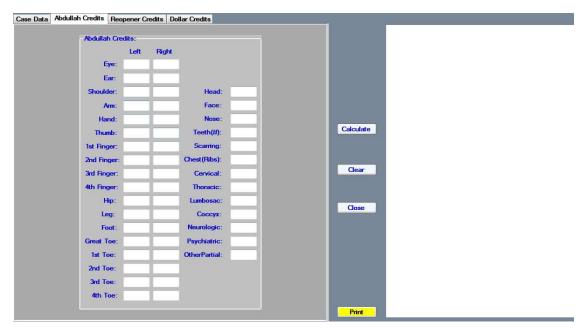
Case Data

The case data tab provides entry spaces for the year of injury, the weekly wage and percents (and number for teeth) for the body parts cited in the statute. The year of injury must be entered. The weekly wage will be assumed to equal or exceed the maximum weekly wage if left blank. The percentage (e.g., 50, 33.3333, etc.) for at least one body part or a whole number of teeth must be entered.



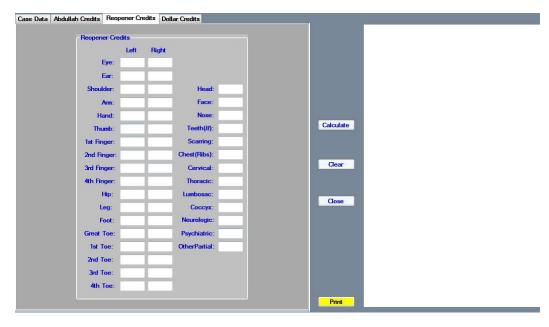
Abdullah Credits

The second tab under "Partial Total Calc." is for the entry of Abdullah credits, if any. These are expressed in the same percentage or whole number, in the case of teeth, as in the "Case Data" tab.



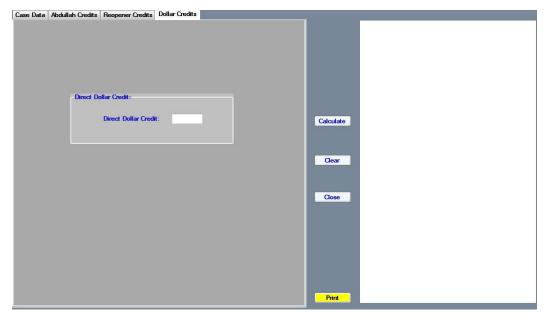
Reopener Credits

The third tab under "Partial Total Calc." is for entry of reopener credits, if any. These are expressed in the same percentage or whole number, in the case of teeth, as in the "Case Data" and "Abdullah Credits" tabs.

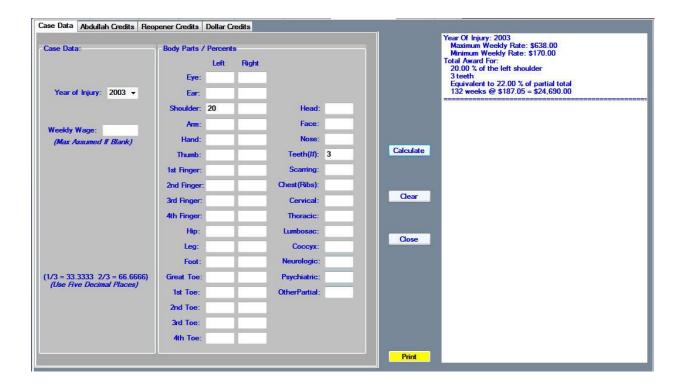


Dollar Credits

The fourth tab under "Partial Total Cale" is for entry of any dollar credits applicable to amounts otherwise payable by the respondent.

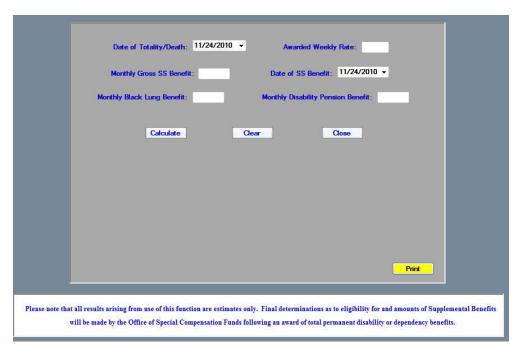


Once all required entries have been made on the "Case Data" tab and any additional entries made on the three other tabs, clicking on the "Calculate" button will display the result in the window on the right of the window.



Supp Bfts.

The "Supp Bfts" tab of OSCAR-CALCS calculates any supplemental benefits that may be payable to a totally and permanently disabled petitioner under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 34:15-95.4. This calculation is limited to cases where the date of totality occurred prior to January 1, 1980 and the rate awarded is no more that the maximum of \$156 per week in 1979.

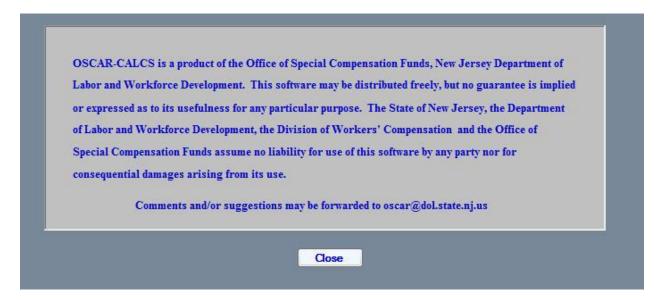


Once all applicable data has been entered and the "Calculate" button is clicked, the estimated supplemental benefits are shown:



About

The last tab in the OSCAR-CALCS window is the "About" window which describes the source of this software and the terms and conditions of its use. Please read this information carefully.



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